

## HOW TO SHE MESSENGER

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18 – To follow him means to like and observe the **rules of Islam** willingly, to respect and revere his commands and the things which Islam cherishes and holds great, such as scholars and the pious, and to strive to spread his Ahkam Islamiya and not to love those who are against observing the commandments of Allahu Taala.

[Our Prophet (sall-Allahu alaihi wa sallam) stated: "All of you are like shepherds of flocks. As a shepherd protects his flock, so you should protect those under your command from Hell! You should teach them Islam! If you don't, you will be held responsible." And once stated: "Many Muslim children will go to the Hell named Wayl because of their fathers, for their fathers, being seized by the ambition of earning money and making merry and running after

worldly affairs only, did not teach their children Islam and the Ouran al-Karim. I am far removed from such fathers. And they are away from me. Those who do not teach their children their religion will go to Hell." And once he stated: "Those who teach their children the Ouran al-Karim or who send them to teachers of the Ouran al-Karim: for each letter of the Ouran al-Karim they will be given rewards as if they visited the Kaaba ten times, and on the Day of Rising a crown of sovereignty will be put on their head. All people will see it and admire it." And once he stated: "Teach your children how to perform salat. When they are seven years old, command them to perform salat. When they are ten years old, beat them if they do not perform it and have them perform it." And once he stated: "When a Muslim's child worships, he, as the father, will receive as much reward as the child gets. When a person teaches his child to sin and whenever this child commits sins. his father also will be recorded equally sinful." Ibni Abidin<sup>[1]</sup> says at the end of the section on the makruh actions in salat: "If a person has his child do the things that are haram for himself to do, he has committed haram. A person who has his son wear silk clothes or ornaments him with gold or who has his children drink alcohol or lets them urinate in the direction of gibla<sup>[2]</sup>, or causes them to stretch their legs in the direction of gibla will be sinful."

<sup>[1]</sup> Savvid Muhammad Ibni Abadin Amin bin Umar bin Abdul'aziz was a Figh (Islamic law based on teachings of the Ouran al-Karim and Hadith) scholar. He was born in Damascus in 1784/1198 and died there in 1836/1252. He became mature with the tawajjuh (to focus attention on a person for the passing on of knowledge) and the presence of Mawlana Khalid-i Baghdadi. When (Mawlana Khalid-i Baghdadi) this sun of Wilavat (state of being a wali, that is one loved by Allahu Taala) set in Damascus, he (Ibni Abidin) became the imam and conducted the salat of janaza (Muslim funeral) performed for him. He wrote many books. His commentary to Durrulmukhtar consists of five volumes and has been printed several times under the name of Raddulmuhtar. It is the most dependable figh book in the Hanafi Madhhab. The major part of the figh information that covers 130 chapters of the Turkish version of our book, Endless Bliss, has been translated from its five volumes (of Raddulmuhtar) that were printed in Egypt in 1856/1272. His fatwas (ruling on a point of Islamic law, given by a recognized religious authority) have also been printed.

<sup>[2]</sup> The direction a Muslim turns toward when performing salat. This direction points to the Kaaba (the structure, which Muslims pray toward, located in Islam's most important mosque known as Al-Mascid Al-Haram in Mecca).

A hadith sharif in the book Murshidun-nisa states: "The salat and fast of those who do not observe the rights of their wives and children will not be acceptable."

Imam al-Ghazali says in his book **Kimya Saadat**: "For example, it is haram (forbidden by Islam) for women to go out with naked head, arms and legs. Also, it is haram for them to go out by covering themselves with thin, tight, ornamented and colored garments. Not only will such women be disobedient to Allahu Taala and sinful, but also, their father, husband, brother and uncle, who are responsible for them; that is, the one who lets them go out in this manner will be their accomplice in disobedience and sin."

The basis of the Islamic religion is to learn and teach iman, the fard and haram. Allahu Taala has sent Prophets (alaihimus-salawatu wat-taslimat) for this purpose. When these tenets are not taught to youngsters, Islam will be demolished and annihilated. Allahu Taala commands Muslims to do Amr bil ma'ruf. That is, He says: "Communicate and teach my commands." And He commands them to do Nahy anil munkar. That is, He says: "Communicate my prohibitions and do not condone their being done."

Our Prophet stated: "Teach Islam to one another! If you give up Amr bil ma'ruf, Allahu Taala will send the worst among you upon you and He will not accept your prayers." And he stated: "The reward that is given to all worships when compared with the reward given for the ghaza (war in the way of Allahu Taala) will be as much as a drop of water compared to an ocean; and the reward given for ghaza, versus the reward given for Amr bil ma'ruf and Nahy anil munkar, is like a drop of water versus an ocean." It is for this reason that Ibni Abidin says at the end of the fifth volume: "The thawab (reward given in the next world) for a fiqh scholar's helping Muslims is more than the thawab for jihad."

In short, a child is an entrustment in the hands of its parents. The child's pure heart is like a precious gem. Like wax, a child can take any shape. When small, it has not taken any shape. It is like pure soil. You will reap what you sow in pure soil. If children are taught the tenets of iman, the **Quran al-Karim** and the commandments of Allahu Taala and accustomed to doing them, they will attain religious and worldly happiness. Their parents and teachers will share this happiness of theirs. If they are not taught and trained, they will become miserable. The sin of each evil they will commit will be given to their parents and teachers, too. Allahu

Taala declares in the sixth ayat of Tahrim Sura: "Protect yourselves and those in your homes and under your command from the fire!" It is more important for a father to protect his children against the fire of Hell than against worldly fire. And to protect them against the fire of Hell is to teach them iman, the fard and the haram, to accustom them to worshipping, and to protect them against irreligious and immoral friends. The source of all kinds of immoral deeds is an evil friend.

Our Prophet (sall-Allahu alaihi wa sallam), by stating, "All children are born fit and suitable for Islam. Later, their parents make them Christians, Jews, or irreligious," indicates that both for the settlement and for the annihilation of Islam the most important work on children can be done when they are still young. Then, the first duty of each Muslim is to teach their children Islam and the Quran al-Karim. The child is a great blessing. If the blessing is not appreciated, it will be lost. Therefore, pedagogy, that is the science of teaching children, is a very valuable science in the Islamic religion.

Because the enemies of religion also understand this important point, freemasons and communists, the most dangerous sources of irreligiousness in our century, say, "Focusing on the youth is our main goal. We should train children so as to make them irreligious." In order to annihilate Islam and to hinder the teaching and practicing of Allahu Taala's commands, freemasons say, "We should not tire the brains of the youngsters. They will learn religious knowledge themselves when they grow up." And they add, "We all should do our best to spread the idea of freedom of belief all over the world and should establish the decisions we make in our lodges in every country. We should annihilate the brotherhood in Islam and establish the masonic brotherhood instead. Thus we will achieve our noble purpose, which consists of the eradication of religions."

Therefore, Muslims should not fall for the tricks and lies of the enemies of the religion; they should not believe their flattering, deceitful, and sequined words. Muslims must do **Amr bil ma'ruf** and **Nahy anil munkar** to one another.

In every country today, youth are taught physical training and made to do physical exercises in order to strengthen, beautify and harmonize their bones, muscles, hands, feet and, in short, all their limbs. They are made to memorize and practice the rules and exercises of arithmetic, geometry, and psychology for the improvement and refreshment of their mental efforts and spiritual activities, and they do physical exercises in order to purify their cells by activating their blood. While all these and the information that will be necessary for worldly affairs are organized as lessons and duties to be practiced, is it appropriate to misrepresent it as a crime and an aggression against conscience to teach and practice iman, Islam, the fard, the waiib, the sunna, and the halal, which will prepare children for real happiness in this world and the next? For everyone's comfort and peace, for improvement and progress, for attaining Allahu Taala's love and grace, for understanding the haram and the things that will cause disbelief so that everyone will avoid them, is teaching Islam a crime? In all Christian countries today, as soon as a child is born they impress on it all the requirements of their corrupt religion. Assiduously, they inoculate people of every age with Judaism and Christianity. In order to steal and annihilate Muslims' belief and faith and to Christianize them, they send chests full of books, brochures and motion pictures to Muslim countries. For example, Christians, presuming that Prophet Isa (Jesus 'alaihi-salam') is the son of God (never!). call Allahu Taala "Father" or "God, the Father". In their novels and films, they say such things as "God the father will rescue us." However, a person who calls Allahu Taala "Father" or "God, the Father" loses their iman and becomes a disbeliever. Muslims should not watch such tricky films or read such novels. Here, with these and various other methods, they insidiously steal the belief of youth. While they name these efforts of theirs service to humanity, a right and freedom, gifted by a democratic regime, isn't it an injustice to name it religious propaganda, retrogression, aggression against the freedom of conscience for a Muslim to remind one of his Muslim brothers of Allahu Taala's commands?

While it is considered extremely normal for a non-Muslim to put forward theories and ideas against Islam, isn't it retrogression, fanaticism and bigotry to misrepresent it as a crime and perfidy for Muslims to talk about real and correct Islam, which the **Ahl as-Sunna** scholars have communicated and have shown as the bright way of Prophet Muhammad (alaihi-salam). By giving Islam such names as reaction, bigotry, retrogression, fanaticism and defeatism against secular principles, they blemish these innocent people? Isn't it a malicious lie to say that these men were primitive and abnormal while in fact, they were pure-souled, far-sighted, useful people who ran after knowledge, morals, science, virtue, and to describe those who dislike Islam as modern, enlightened and

vigilant men? If they, on the one hand, try to object to Amr bil ma'ruf and Nahy anil munkar by saying that religion is free, that you cannot interfere between Allahu Taala and man, that everybody will recognize and worship their Allah according to the inspiration in their conscience, and thereby extinguish our iman, an inheritance from our ancestors, and, on the other hand, offer youth poisonous books and magazines through false advertisements that are prepared by missionaries called **Jehova's Witnesses** with tricks and plans under the name of Islam in order to annihilate Islam, won't Muslims become hurt?

Unbelievers, led by the British, focusing all their energies and efforts on the extermination of Islam from the earth, do not tolerate younger generations' being curious about Islam, leading them to making research and consequently learning Islam. Despite all these strenuous interceptive measures of theirs, wouldn't they get mad with a fire of grudge, malice and revenge from head to toe when they hear about the statements of Ahl as-Sunna scholars (rahmatullahi taala alaihim ajmain). Showing pictures of turbans, beads and beards in their TVs, newspapers and magazines, they say, "The black force has risen from its grave: Retrogression!" As their bodies and souls will burn eternally in the fire of Hell as a punishment for their disbelief, so their foul souls burn in this world, too. Radio and television programs of this sort are very harmful.

Muslims respect one another, run to help one another. When they see others in trouble in religious or worldly matters, they rescue them. They love and revere the month of Ramadan (the holy month in which Muslims have to fast), those who fast, mosques, the adhan (call to prayer), those who perform salat and those who walk on the way of the Ahkam Islamiya. As the **Ouran** al-Karim is read or recited, they listen to it silently and with reverence. Keeping the **Ouran al-Karim** above any other book. they don't put anything on it. They do not read it at musical or cocktail parties, while playing, or at places of entertainment. When it is read improperly, they leave the place without listening, if they cannot silence it. When they see the **Ouran al-Karim** or its pages or its lines or its letters or all respectable or blessed names at low, despicable places, they at once raise them, their hearts aching. They observe the rights of all human beings and animals. They don't attack the property, souls, or chastity of disbelievers or foreign visitors. They pay their taxes in time, and they don't violate the laws. They obtain the love and respect of everybody by living in accordance with the high moral principles of Islam. As for the unbelievers: they try to cause the **Ouran al-Karim** and the **Mawlid** (celebration of Prophet Muhammad's 'alaihi-salam birthday) and all sacred names to be despised and referred to as foul. They print them in magazines, on pieces of paper, and in newspapers so that they will be used as covers for packages, or on tables of entertainment, so that they be disrespected and placed on the floor. In plays, in comedies, in cartoons, in films, in records and on radio and TV programs they make fun of Muslims, great religious men. and commandments of Allahu Taala. In all these, they represent a loathsome, funny vagabond as a Muslim. That is, by insulting Islam and Muslims, they misrepresent them as unsympathetic and hateful. They give loathsome names to great Muslims and to the things which Muslims deem great. Muslims should not go to see and hear their shows, nor should they buy or read words, writings and newspapers of this sort. They should be very vigilant lest their iman should be stolen. If a person who criticizes a religious scholar or finds a religious book erroneous and full of mistakes, performs salat, fasts and avoids the haram, then oral and written statements made by this person are worth studying and that scholar or that book must be scrutinized. If the person who speaks ill of a religious book or a religious scholar does not worship or abstain from the haram, we should not believe that person's opinion, realizing that it is only a slander and an expression of enmity towards Islam. Blemishing religious men (rahmatullahi taala alaihim ajmain) and religious books has been a tool, a weapon for the enemies of Islam today. A scholar only can appreciate a scholar. Only the nightingale appreciates the value of a rose; only the jeweler perceives the carats in gold; and only the chemist understands a genuine pearl.

Muslims do not buy, use, listen to, read or look at the harmful things which Allahu Taala prohibits. They do not harm anybody. They do not respond to base behavior in kind. They are always patient. They give advice with a sweet tongue and a smiling face. Muslims try to learn, teach and do the things which Allahu Taala commands. They search for knowledge even if it is possessed by disbelievers. It has always been so in the course of history; those who could not think of mankind as a superior being have borne hostility against the Islamic religion, have tried to deceive youth and, at a time they did not expect at all, they themselves died, leaving their worldly pleasures, which they had been clasping so tightly, and went to Hell. The names of many of them have been

forgotten, with no fame, no sign of them having remained behind them, whereas the Islamic sun has continued to spread its light all over the world.

Disbelievers embrace the comfort and beauty of the world which is sweet outwardly but bitter inwardly, sequined outside but poisonous inside, pleasing in the beginning but unworthy in the end. Muslims should embrace the commandments of the **Quran al-Karim**, which is the way of our Prophet (sall-Allahu alaihi wa sallam), and should ceaselessly struggle to improve in this way. They should beware from bid'at (innovations to Islam), which have appeared later in Islam and have been concocted by enemies of Islam, by **Islam's reformers**, and by ignorant, stupid people.]

Our Prophet (sall-Allahu alaihi wa sallam) says: "A person who respects those who practice bid'at (that is, those who do and teach as worship words, writings, ways, and deeds that did not exist in the time of our Prophet and his four Caliphs but were made up and developed later in Islam), who praises them when they are alive or dead, and who deems them great, in fact, helps Islam to be demolished, to be eradicated from the world."

Every Muslim should try to protect their iman lest it should be seized. One should deem enemies of Allahu Taala and His Prophet as their own enemies and struggle to humiliate and disgrace them.

Every Muslim should endeavor to maintain their iman and should not let it be stolen. One should not love disbelievers who do not believe Allahu Taala and His Prophet. [But one should not treat harshly or cruelly those whom one does not like. Disbelievers and bid'at holders should be given good advice with a smiling face and with a sweet tongue. We should try to rescue them from the disaster, so that they may attain happiness.] Ahl as-Sunna scholar Hazrat Mazhar Jan-i Janan (quddisa sirruh) stated: "We are commanded not to love disbelievers, men of bid'at, and those sinners who commit sins floutingly. We should not speak with them, go to their homes and meetings or give salutations to them, or make friends with them. However, these prohibitions are suspended under inevitable conditions within a time of necessity. Although it is permissible to contact them under these conditions, it is a must not to love them in a heartfelt way."

Jihad (striving or struggling to propagate [Ahl as-Sunna] Islam) is done to save people who have been deceived and oppressed by ignorant parents, by priests who work for their worldly

advantages, and by commanders who persecute people for their own pleasures, from disbelief and from the way to calamity, and to use force in order that they be honored with Islam. Jihad means to sacrifice one's life and property for the elimination of the wickedness of dictators and exploiters, who intercept Islam's light from reaching those wretched people who were brought up under oppression and among atrocities and thrown into darkness. It means to resort to force in order to save them from torment of Hell and to make them attain the boundless blessings of Paradise. Jihad is not done individually, but by the State. Attacking others individually is not called jihad; it is called barbarism or plunder. It is fard for those who have not joined in a jihad to pray for the mujahids (one who strives or struggles to propagate [Ahl as-Sunnal Islam). It is owing to jihad that even disbelievers are rescued from the oppressions of cruel people and honored with iman. We do not touch the religion, life or property of those who, after hearing about and understanding Islam, still persist in disbelief and do not accept iman. They live freely and comfortably under the justice and mercy of Islam. Owing to jihad, no disbeliever will be able to say, "I did not hear about it. I would have believed if I had heard." It is fard for Muslims to work, to become powerful enough to perform jihad. If they do not work and perform iihad, they will have done a great disservice to all people.